

11 July 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Status of Pending Legislation in the House Post Office and Civil Service Committees

1. After a number of unsuccessful attempts, I finally contacted Mr. Charles Johnson on the Committee staff. He provided the following information on bills in which we have an interest:

a. H. R. 6141, the Overseas Medical Benefits bill and H. R. 3527, the Overseas Employees Fringe Benefits Act

These bills have apparently suffered from the lack of leadership in a subcommittee and will not be reported in this Congress. Johnson says that the Committee Chairman is most anxious to take these measures up in the next Congress. He apparently feels that they did not have sufficient development in this Congress.

b. H. R. 6 concerning Employee Organizations and Unions

This bill will not be reported out by the Subcommittee in this form. Johnson indicated that as a result of the hearings on H. R. 6, the Committee had decided to start with a clean bill (H. R. 12848) which was introduced by Congressman Lesinski. However, it is doubtful whether this bill will move in this Congress. It has been referred to the Bureau of the Budget inasmuch as the Committee Chairman is unwilling to proceed further without full developments and comment on that bill from the Bureau of the Budget. Budget does not believe this can be accomplished this year. *See NR 13507*

c. H. R. 13319, Civil Service Grievance Procedures Act

Johnson indicated that this bill follows the same pattern as the training bill (S. 385) but because of the strong opposition to that bill, the Committee has excluded CIA, the FBI and others. He expects this bill to be reported out next Wednesday or Thursday.

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d. S. 3011 and S. 3088, Career Service Act Proposals

I queried Johnson as to whether similar bills would be introduced in the House. He confirmed my thought that there were none.

2. In reply to my general question as to whether Johnson knew of any other action bills which might be of interest to CIA, he provided the following information:

a. H. R. 1168 relating to the Downgrading of Positions

This is a rewrite of section 507 of the Classification Act. It includes a revision of some of the provisions of Public Law 594 of the 84th Congress in addition to new provisions.

b. S. 1850 concerning Employment of Personnel in the Canal Zone

The House and Senate conferees meet on this bill on 11 July 1958.

c. Johnson added that there is some chance that a bill now in draft form will be introduced on the 16th of July and reported out by the Committee on the 17th of July. This is a bill to amend Public Law 769, 83rd Congress, which was rewritten to cover cases such as that of Alger Hiss in the receipt of Civil Service retirement annuities. The Committee feels that the present law is much too broad and is denying Civil Service retirement annuities in cases where such denial is unwarranted. Johnson feels that the draft bill is a more reasonable approach and is sorely needed. He said the measure is a Civil Service Commission substitute for Congressman Robeson's bill, H. R. 6214. The Departments of Defense and Justice have made suggestions on this bill which have been adopted in large measure by the Committee. The Bureau of the Budget now has the final draft.

SIGNED


Assistant to the Legislative Counsel

CC: DD/S

Bill files

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